



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/693,679	10/23/2003	Stephanie Marel	B-5275 621391-0	8660
7590 04/09/2007 HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY Intellectual Property Administration P.O. Box 272400 Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400			EXAMINER NAWAZ, ASAD M	
			ART UNIT 2155	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	04/09/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/693,679	MAREL ET AL.
	Examiner Asad M. Nawaz	Art Unit 2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/23/03.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 23 October 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/23/03</u>	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to the preliminary amendment filed 10/23/03.

Claims 3-5 and 10-12 were amended. Accordingly, claims 1-14 remain pending.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 10/23/03 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being taught by Chen (US Patent No. 6,349,307).

As to claim 1, Chen teaches a method of matching one or more structured descriptions, the method including the steps of: a. detecting a context reflecting an environment in which the matching is to occur (col 3, lines 33-67);

b. matching the detected context to a concept list appropriate to the detected context (col 3, lines 3-15, col 8, lines 14-37);

c. using the concept list to transform the one or more structured descriptions into reduced structured descriptions (col 3, lines 3-15);

d. matching the one or more reduced structured descriptions (col 8, line 51 to col 9, line 24); and

e. providing an output representing the matching between the structured descriptions (abstract; col 8, line 51 to col 9, line 24).

As to claim 3, Chen teaches method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the concept list corresponds to a structured list of concepts and keywords related to a specified context (see claims 5 and 14).

As to claim 4, Chen teaches a method as claimed in claim 1 wherein one or more of the structured descriptions is reduced by matching keywords in one or more of the structured descriptions with keywords in the concept list and the removing any unmatched keyword concepts from the corresponding structured description (col 8, line 51 to col 9, line 24).

As to claim 5, Chen teaches a method as in claim 1 wherein the context determination is based on measurement of a physical location in which the matching is to occur, direct reception of data indicating the context or statistical analysis of characteristics of the environment in which the matching is to occur (col. 8, lines 14-37).

As to claim 9, Chen teaches a method as claimed in claim 7 wherein the transformation process preserves relevant hierarchical structure in the structured

description by pruning the keyword tree to remove unmatched keywords while preserving the remaining structure of the description (col 8, line 51 to col 9, line 24).

As to claim 10, Chen teaches a method as claimed in either claim 1 wherein one or more of the structured descriptions and the concept list are defined according to dissimilar ontologies, the method further including the steps of converting one or more of the structured descriptions and the concept list to a common ontology prior to matching or reduction of the structured descriptions (col 8, line 51 to col 9, line 24).

As to claim 11, Chen teaches a method as claimed in either claim 2 wherein one or more of the structured descriptions are defined according to dissimilar ontologies, the method further including the steps of converting one or more of the structured descriptions to a common ontology prior to matching or reduction of the structured descriptions (col 8, line 51 to col 9, line 24).

Claims 2, 6-8 and 12-14 contain similar limitations as the above rejected claims and are thus rejected under similar rationale.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Asad M. Nawaz whose telephone number is (571) 272-3988. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AMN



Salma M. Jar
SUPERVISOR EXAMINER